

BRIERLEY HILL
URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.



REPORT

on the Works of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for 1948.

J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

H. J. PARKER,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor J. H. Hough, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor S. Woodhouse, C.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor Dr. G. C. Campbell.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor S. Wood.

Councillors D. Guttery, J.P., J. G. Hickman, C. F. Moore, F. Overton, H. C. Roberts, B.Sc., J. A. Tipton, and Mrs. A. Ryder, J. H. Hough, J.P. (ex-officio).

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

N. V. Hepple, M.D., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Resigned January, 1948).
 H. W. Plant, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Acting M.O.H. to December, 1948).
 J. H. Donnelly, L.R.C.S.(Ed), L.R.C.P.(Ed), L.R.F.P. & S. (Glas), D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

* H. J. Parker, M.S.I.A., Cert.R.S.I., A.M.I.P.C.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

* J. W. Billingham, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B. (Resigned Nov., 1948).
 * C. H. Crawford, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B. (Appointed Nov., 1948).

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

* W. Whitfield, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B., A.M.I.P.C. (Resigned Sept., 1948).
 R. F. M. Saunders, Cert.S.I.B. (Appointed Sept., 1948).
 J. A. Clifford, Cert.S.I.B. (Appointed Nov., 1948).

Veterinary Surgeons :

D. J. Anthony, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.
 D. Howie, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

Analyst :

A. Houlbrooke, Esq., County Buildings, Stafford.

Clerical Staff :

F. L. Bills and F. Hickman.
 Misses J. Birch, L. Smith and M. Fudge.

* Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the year 1948.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BRIERLEY HILL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Consequent upon my appointment as your Medical Officer of Health in January, 1949, following the resignations of Dr. N. V. Hepple in January and of Dr. H. W. Plant, who was Acting Medical Officer of Health to December, it is my privilege to present the Annual Report of 1948 on the work of your Public Health Department.

The year brought many changes in Public Health administration, and it is too early to notice any benefit arising from the National Health Act, 1946, which became operative in July. A more accurate survey will be possible when the various administrative difficulties are overcome and the new regulations are running smoothly.

It will be seen from information contained herein that the health of the residents of Brierley Hill and District has remained satisfactory during the year. An exception to this is the high number of infantile deaths despite the excellent work of the Infant Welfare Centres, Clinics and Domiciliary Services, *e.g.* Midwives and Health Visitors. It is thought however, that if more advantage was taken by young mothers to avail themselves of the various services at their disposal in the care of the newly born baby, *e.g.* Ante Natal Clinics, the rate would be progressively reduced.

The increase in population of 1,190 over mid 1947 has added further to the housing problem. It must be stressed that conditions under which many of the people are housed will soon have a marked effect on the physical and mental health, particularly those in overcrowded and substandard houses.

It is accepted that the Council and the Staff responsible for the maintenance and provision of houses are aware of the great need, but it is emphasised that the intensification of all efforts to improve the housing situation is imperative.

To members of the Council, Officers, and the staff of the Department I wish to express appreciation of their assistance and co-operation on behalf of Dr. Hepple, Dr. Plant and myself.

J. H. DONNELLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.**Statistics '—**

Registrar General's estimate of population (mid. 1948)	48,250
Area (in acres)	5,932
Rateable Value (1st April, 1948)	£181,198
Sums represented by a Penny Rate, 1948-9	£710

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1948.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Live Births : Legitimate	893	446	447
Illegitimate	33	18	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	926	464	462
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birthrate per 1,000 Civilian population : 19.19.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Still Births : Legitimate	25	13	12
Illegitimate	2	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	27	14	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births : 28.33.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Deaths	465	243	222

Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian population : 9.64.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	52.91
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births	54.88
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	79

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.**Births.**

The Birth Rate of 19.19 shows a decrease on that of 21.57 for 1947. It is higher than the rates for England and Wales and the 148 towns of a comparable size whose rates are 17.9 and 19.2 respectively.

Deaths.

The Death Rate 9.64 is lower than that of 11.05 for 1947, there being 55 fewer deaths. The rate compares with 10.8 for the whole country and 10.7 for the smaller towns.

The most frequent causes of death were Heart Disease, Cancer, Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions, Bronchitis and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. These categories included 217 deaths.

Natural Increase of Population.

The number of births exceeded the number of deaths by 461.

Infantile Mortality.

49 children under one year of age died during the year. The mortality rate of 52.91 per 1,000 live births compares with 34.00 for England and Wales and 32.00 for the towns of comparable size, and 24.63 for 1947.

An analysis of the figures makes it quite clear that care and attention during the first six months of life is imperative if a reduction in the rate is to be achieved. It will be seen that three deaths only were recorded in the age group 6—12 months.

The following table gives the ages at death, compared with the previous year :—

TABLE I.

				1947.		Total.	1948.		Total.
				M.	F.		M.	F.	
Days	0—1	...	...	2	1	3	10	2	12
	—7	...	...	3	3	6	6	4	10
	—14	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—21	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	1
Months	—6	...	...	4	6	10	11	12	23
	—12	...	...	2	1	3	2	1	3
Total under one year				11	11	22	30	19	49

The causes of death are grouped as follows :—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	16
Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	17
Central Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	1
Digestive System	...	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, etc.						12
Total	...	...	...	...	...	49

Maternal Mortality.

Two maternal deaths occurred giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of 2.16 per 1,000 live births.

CAUSES OF DEATH.
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.

TABLE II.

Diseases.	1948		Total.
	Male.	Female.	
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	12	15	27
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Syphilitic diseases	2	—	2
Influenza	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute infantile infective encephalitis... ..	1	—	1
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) and uterus (F)	4	4	8
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	9	7	16
Cancer of breast	—	11	11
Cancer of all other sites	28	16	44
Diabetes	1	5	6
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	22	28	50
Heart disease	44	38	82
Other diseases of circulatory system	4	9	13
Bronchitis	21	12	33
Pneumonia	11	11	22
Other respiratory diseases	7	2	9
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	4	—	4
Diarrhoea (under two years)	2	2	4
Appendicitis	1	1	2
Other digestive disorders	5	1	6
Nephritis	5	4	9
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	2	2
Premature birth	11	5	16
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile disorders	8	4	12
Suicide	—	2	2
Road traffic accidents	1	1	2
Other violent causes	5	7	12
All other causes	33	34	67
	243	222	465

Birthrates, Civilian Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1948. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

TABLE III.

	England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s. and great towns including London	148 smaller towns Resident Pop. 25,000—50,000 1931 Census	London Adm. County.	Brierley Hill.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births.					
Live Births ...	17.9(a)	20.0	19.2	20.1	19.19
Still Births ...	0.42(a)	0.52	0.43	0.39	0.56
Deaths.					
All Causes ...	10.8(a)	11.6	10.7	11.6	9.64
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02
Tuberculosis ...	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63	0.58
Influenza ...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.02
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio- myelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia ...	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54	0.46
Notifications (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37	2.75
Whooping Cough ...	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13	3.48
Diphtheria ...	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.35
Erysipelas ...	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22	0.06
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17	3.90
Pneumonia ...	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57	0.43
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.02
Acute Polio- cephalitis ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		Rates per 1,000 Live Births			
Deaths.					
All causes under 1 year of age	34(b)	39	32	31	52.91
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4	4.32

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

Notifications (Corrected) Puerperal fever and pyrexia					
	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34(c)	1.05

(a) Rates per 1,000 population.

(b) Per 1,000 related births.

(c) In London Puerperal fever alone was 0.61.

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis.	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections.	Nos. 142-6 148-150 Other	Brierley Hill Other
0.11	0.05	0.13	0.73	2.16

Abortion—Mortality per million women aged 15-44 in England and Wales.

No. 140 with Sepsis.	No. 141 without Sepsis.	Brierley Hill.
9	4	—

SECTION B.**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

The Local Health Authority, namely the County Council, has set up an Area Committee, and appointed an Area Medical Officer with headquarters in Brierley Hill, to assist the County Medical Officer of Health in the administration of the Health Services in your area.

The Health Services to be provided are :—

- Health Centres.
- Care of Mothers and young children.
- Midwifery.
- Health Visiting.
- Home Nursing.

Prevention of illness, care and after care.
 Domestic help.
 Vaccination and Immunisation.
 Ambulance Service.
 Mental Health Service.

All these services are being provided with the exception of the Health Centre. This is not yet established.

Hospitals.

Administration of Hospitals and Specialist Services is now the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The hospitals serving this district are as follows :—

Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.
 Guest Hospital, Dudley.
 Wordsley Hospital, Stourbridge.

Other hospitals within easy reach are those of Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Cases of infectious disease are referred to Isolation Hospitals at Moxley and Kingswinford.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There are no Nursing Homes in the area. Maternity cases are admitted to Wordsley Hospital.

Tuberculosis.

Sanatoria are available at Kinver, Groundslow, Prestwood and Himley. Cases of surgical Tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and the Woodlands. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton.

Post Mortem Room.

Twenty three bodies were admitted to the post mortem room during the year. The causes of death were as follows :—

Natural causes	...	...	...	...	...	13
Misadventure ...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accident	...	...	...	...	...	5
Manslaughter ...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service continues to deal with the pathological and bacteriological specimens sent from this area.

The chemical analysis of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the County Analyst who acts for the Urban District Council.

Ambulance Services.

Details in relation to this Service are divided into two periods. January to July when the service was operated by this Authority, and July to December when the Service was taken over by the Central Authority, *i.e.* Staffordshire County Council.

January—July 5th.

The number of patients admitted and discharged from various hospitals was 2,676. Of these 117 were non-residents of this district, and were conveyed by arrangement with neighbouring Authorities, the figure for Brierley Hill is therefore 2,559. The total mileage covered was 19,886 miles.

The following vehicles were handed over on 5th July, 1948.

Ambulances.

1 Morris.
1 Austin.
1 Hillman (Auxiliary)

Cars.

1 Austin 16 h.p.
1 Wolseley 14 h.p.

July 5th to December 31st.

Inquiries regarding this period show that 1,459 patients, all residents of this district, were conveyed to 34 different Hospitals, Institutions, Homes and Rehabilitation Centres, etc.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The District is served by two Companies. The Stourbridge and District Water Board supply 2,035 houses at Wordsley, while the rest of the area is served by the South Staffordshire Water Board. In both cases the supply comes from deep wells and bore holes in the New Red Sandstone to depths varying from 200 to 500 feet. The water is examined regularly and has continued to be of a high standard of purity.

The following are typical analyses :—

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATER BOARD.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli)
after 48 hours' incubation at 37 deg. cent Nil per 100 ml.

<i>Analysis.</i>	<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212 deg. F. ...	28.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	0.0016
Nitric Nitrogen	0.49
Chlorine	3.7
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F. ...	0.001
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	6.5
Hardness before boiling	12.6 deg.
Hardness after boiling	5.6 deg.
Temporary Hardness	7.0 deg.

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after
48 hours' incubation at 37 deg. cen. ... Nil per 100 ml.

	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212 deg. F.	26.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0012
Nitric Nitrogen	0.95
Chlorine	2.3
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	0.001
Appearance	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	None
pH Value	6.7
Hardness before boiling	14.4 deg.
Hardness after boiling	5.7 deg.
Temporary Hardness	8.7 deg.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The Surveyor states that no developments of note have occurred during the year.

Public Cleansing.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent. A report on the work will be found in his report.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The Architect and Housing Director has kindly supplied the following information for the year ended 30th April, 1949 :—

During this period the national programme of building works has been slightly increased, and the number of new permanent traditional dwellings approved by the Ministry of Health and placed under contract has been 303.

254 permanent traditional dwellings have been completed together with 30 permanent aluminium bungalows, a total of 284 new dwellings.

Some of the difficulties with regard to materials have also been removed, but recently a shortage of common bricks has caused some anxiety.

As soon as they were able to do so, the Council commenced issuing private licences and so far 62 have been issued.

In December last, the ceremony of laying the first brick marked the commencement of building development on the Market Street Site, whilst the first post-war group of small dwellings for Aged People is now in building on the Oak Street Site.

On the Housing Management and Maintenance side of the Department there have been 274 new dwellings tenanted ; 77 houses vacated and re-occupied ; 73 transfers of tenancy ; 43 mutual exchanges of tenancy ; 62 tenants transferred to more suitable accommodation ; 1,152 investigations of applications for houses ; 1,435 welfare visits and special investigations ; 643 routine inspections of Council Estates and 70 investigations of applications for building licences.

5,992 items of general repair have been executed by the Building Maintenance staff, whilst 342 houses have been decorated internally and 656 houses painted externally as programme repairs together with an additional 62 houses decorated internally following exchanges or transfers of tenancy. A further 135 houses, part of the contract for 250 houses have been decorated internally.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk and other Foodstuffs.

Sampling was undertaken throughout the year by the Sanitary Inspectors. Particulars of the results will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

Meat.

Meat inspection occupied a great deal of the time of the Inspectors. Details are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council to inspect meat at a large meat factory in the area.

The Chief Veterinary Officer reports as follows :—

I have the honour to present this report of the work of the Veterinary Department for 1948.

Of all the animals slaughtered and inspected during the year, the number of cattle shows a decrease as compared with the previous year, and the same applies to sheep killed. The number of calves increased by about 100% over 1947. The calves killed are not all bull calves, but an alarming number of heifer calves were slaughtered during 1948. There is a welcome increase in the number of pigs sent in for slaughter, and this increase has been maintained during the latter part of 1948, so that there is some hope of reaching the pre-war figures in the near future, provided the supply of pig food is maintained.

The cattle slaughtered had a very high incidence of Fluke disease, as many as 30% of the cattle slaughtered having fluke-infested livers. The large percentage of old cows slaughtered for the Ministry of Food has resulted in raising the percentage of tuberculosis to 27% of the cattle killed. The high incidence of mastitis is also linked up with this disease. In normal times many of the cows would not be allowed to enter the factory for slaughter, but would be rejected out-of-hand by ante-mortem inspection, as fit only for the knackery.

It is to be hoped that the long-delayed cleaning-up of English dairy herds will be carried out soon. It has already been delayed far too long from the Public Health aspect as well as that of agricultural economics. These emaciated and disease-ridden animals are consuming valuable food which should be used to fatten healthy stock.

The following tables indicate the various aspects of the veterinary work during the year :—

TABLE IV.
MEAT CONDEMNED (PIGS).

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other parts
Tuberculosis	34	1143	834	834	832	452	131	72	1787	(37 Forequarters (2 Hindquarters)
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	3	3	5018	3 1267	3	3	3	6	3	—
Pericarditis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Endocarditis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis ...	—	—	—	—	721	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	2	2	2	2	1583	195	139	4	294	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	35	32	50	—	15	—	—	15 Omentum.
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	—	—	32	—	—	—	—	—
Hernia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—
Strongylosis	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2165	—	—
Nephritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Bruising ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1 Forequarter 3 Hindquarters
Pyæmia ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	14 Hindquarters 2 Loins, 1 Shank
Empyæmia	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	14	7	2 Forequarters 6 Forequarters 1 Hindquarter
Fractures ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter 3 Hind., 3 Shanks
Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oedema ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Jaundice ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Swine Erysipelas	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	22	11	—
Dead in lairage	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Dead in transit	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	54	27	—
Totals	95	1204	5952	2196	3277	708	344	2361	2152	15 Omentum 47 Forequarters 23 Hindquarters 2 Loins, 4 Shanks

MEAT CONDEMNED (SHEEP).

17

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other parts.
Muelleriasis	—	—	3760	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy and	—	—	60	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	106	375	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis...	—	—	361	1	2417	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	7 Forequarters
Fascioliasis	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Hindquarters
Pyæmia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Flank
Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Oedema ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	4 Hindquarters
Empyæma	3	3	6	6	4	3	3	6	3	1 Shank
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2 Forequarters
Emaciation...	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	2 Hindquarters
Fevered Flesh	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	3 Forequarters
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcinoma	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial necrosis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Jaundice ...	6	7	7	7	7	6	7	12	6	—
Fractures ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hindquarter
Septicæmia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Dead in lairage	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Dead in transit	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Totals	25	31	4212	143	2827	25	26	50	25	14 Forequarters 9 Hindquarters 1 Flank, 1 Shank

MEAT CONDEMNED (CATTLE).

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other parts
Actinobacillosis	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6 Tongues
Actinomycosis	—	24	—	—	299	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	240	849	1398	571	—	234	262	428	612	180 Forequarters 16 Hindquarters
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	—	—	316	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Strongylosis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Melanosis	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis...	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	187	—	135	—	1	—	—	—
Fascioliasis	—	—	—	—	1767	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	2	2	2	2	62	24	110	4	11	2 Flanks 1 Hindquarter
Cavernous angioma	—	—	—	—	135	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial necrosis	—	—	—	—	62	—	1	—	—	—
Nephritis	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	6	2	—
Bruising	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	4 Forequarters 4 Hindquarters

Meat Condemned (Cattle)—Continued

Pyæmia ...	—	1	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oedema ...	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	—	1 Forequarter 2 Hindquarters	—
Hydronephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration ...	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cellulitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	639 Udders	—
Septicaemia ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	—	—
Jaundice ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	5	—	—
Fatty degeneration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Loins	—
Toxaemia ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	—	—
Fevered flesh ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	—	—
Carcinoma ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Hindquarters	—
Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hindquarter	—
Fractures ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	259	900	1922	600	2512	289	391	472	640	640	640	6 Tongues 185 Forequarters 26 Hindquarters 2 Flanks, 2 Loins 639 Udders	—

MEAT CONDEMNED (CALVES).

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other parts
Tuberculosis	3	5	13	13	13	3	12	6	3	—
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyæmia ...	4	8	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	—
Bruising ...	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Septicæmia	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	1 Forequarter
Melanosis ...	—	—	4	1	2	—	1	—	—	—
Fevered flesh	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Jaundice ...	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Fatty infiltration	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cholangitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Died in lairage	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Died in transit	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—
Totals ...	22	30	42	33	37	22	32	45	22	1 Forequarter

Imported meat, canned goods and meat from other sources,
seized and destroyed :—

TABLE V.

		<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Chilled beef (Home killed)	...	—	14	1	24	—
Bacon	... ..	—	1	—	—	—
Pork	... ..	—	—	—	26	—
Rabbits	... ..	—	—	—	6	—
Frozen beef (Imported)	...	—	11	1	12	—
Frozen mutton (Imported)	...	—	—	3	6	—
Frozen Ox hearts	...	—	—	2	—	—
Canned goods :—						
Spaghetti	... ..	—	—	—	8	—
Patte-de-fois-gras	... ..	—	—	—	8	15
Veal Loaf	... ..	—	—	—	5	2
Calf tongue	... ..	—	—	—	2	—
Jellied veal	... ..	—	—	—	6	—
Minced beef loaf	... ..	—	—	—	6	—
Meat lunch	... ..	—	—	—	5	4
Potted meat	... ..	—	—	—	1	11
Corned beef	... ..	—	7	2	12	8
Corned mutton	... ..	—	—	—	3	12
Pork sausage	... ..	—	—	—	2	—
Canned bacon	... ..	—	—	—	2	—
Meat and vegetables	... ..	—	—	3	10	—
Total weights	... ..	1	17	1	7	4...

**Percentage of Pathological Conditions
found in Slaughtered Animals.**

TABLE VI.

PIGS.			CATTLE.		
Pneumonia and Pleurisy ...	8%		Fascioliasis ...	30%	
Tuberculosis ...	3%		Tuberculosis ...	27%	
Hydronephrosis ...	3%		Mastitis ...	10%	
Pericarditis... ..	2%		Pleurisy and Pneumonia ...	5%	
Peritonitis	2%		Hydatid Cysts ...	3%	
Cirrhosis	1%		Peritonitis	2%	
Hydatid Cysts	0.1%		Cavernous Angioma ...	2%	
Fatty Infiltration ...	0.05%		Bacterial Necrosis ...	1%	
Pyæmia	0.025%		Actinomycosis	0.5	
Empyæma	0.01		Pyæmia	0.4	
Swine Erysipelas ...	0.01		Gastritis	0.3%	
Enteritis	0.008%		Fatty Infiltration ...	0.3%	
Fractures	0.007%		Actinobacillosis ...	0.2	
Arthritis	0.007%		Pericarditis... ..	0.2%	
Strongylosis	0.006%		Bruising	0.2%	
Bruising	0.005%		Emaciation... ..	0.2%	
Hernia	0.004%		Jaundice	0.1%	
Nephritis	0.002%		Melanosis	0.04%	
Gastritis	0.002%		Nephritis	0.04%	
Oedema	0.002%		Hydronephrosis ...	0.04	
Jaundice	0.002		Septicæmia	0.04%	
Endocarditis	0.001%		Fatty Degeneration ...	0.04%	
			Toxæmia	0.04%	
Dead in lairage	0.005%		Arthritis	0.04%	
Dead in transit	0.03%		Strongylosis	0.02%	
			Cellulitis	0.02%	
			Fevered Flesh	0.02%	
			Carcinoma	0.02%	
			Fractures	0.02%	
SHEEP.			CALVES.		
Muelleriasis	22%		Tuberculosis	0.3%	
Fascioliasis	14%		Pyæmia	0.2%	
Hydatid Cysts	2%		Melanosis	0.2%	
Pleurisy and Pneumonia ...	0.3%		Pleurisy and Pneumonia ...	0.1%	
Pyæmia	0.07		Bruising	0.8%	
Pericarditis... ..	0.05%		Septicæmia	0.6%	
Jaundice	0.05%		Jaundice	0.6%	
Empyæma	0.04%		Fevered Flesh	0.4%	
Arthritis	0.03%		Fatty Infiltration ...	0.2%	
Oedema	0.03		Cholangitis	0.2%	
Peritonitis	0.025%		Peritonitis	0.2%	
Emaciation... ..	0.02%		Hydronephrosis	0.2%	
Fevered Flesh	0.01%				
Fatty Infiltration ...	0.01%				
Carcinoma	0.006%				
Bacterial Necrosis...	0.006%				
Bruising	0.006%				
Fractures	0.006%				
Dead in lairage	0.01%		Dead in lairage	0.06	
Dead in transit	0.03%		Dead in transit	0.06	

The following table shows the number of carcasses of animals on which post-mortem examinations were held. These animals all died a natural death, either in transit to Brierley Hill, or in the lairages whilst awaiting slaughter :—

TABLE VII.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Cattle.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Anaemia	—	1	—	2
Auto-intoxication	—	1	—	—
Enteritis	—	1	1	1
Fascioliasis	—	—	3	—
Internal haemorrhage... ..	—	—	1	6
Pericarditis	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	—	3	2	7
Swine Erysipelas	—	—	—	2
Syncope	—	—	—	13
Total—45	—	6	7	32

In addition to the above, the following farm animals were also subjected to post-mortem examinations :—

1 Calf	Auto-intoxication.
1 „	Enteritis.
1 „	Nephritis.
1 „	Pneumonia
1 Sheep	Enteritis.
1 „	Fascioliasis.
1 „	Fatty Infiltration
1 „	Pneumonia.
1 Pig	Pneumonia
1 „ (Sow)	Swine Erysipelas
1 „ do.	Internal haemorrhage
1 „	Anaemia

The following Zoological animals were examined after death :—

1 Bison	Septicaemia & Gangrene
1 Cheetah	Generalised tuberculosis.
1 Warthog	Pneumonia
1 Sea Lion	Internal haemorrhage.

During the year veterinary treatment was applied to various animals, chiefly horses and cattle. The number of treatments applied and the variety of animals are as follows :—

Horses	...	...	...	...	158	times.
Cattle	...	...	...	...	132	„
Sheep	...	...	...	...	2	„
Pigs	...	...	...	...	23	„
Poultry	...	...	...	...	1	„
Dogs	...	...	...	...	37	„
Cats	...	...	...	...	6	„
Bison	...	...	...	...	4	„
Rhesus monkeys		...	...	...	2	„
Lions	...	...	...	...	2	„
Cheetah		...	...	...	2	„
Elephant		...	...	...	2	„
Warthog	...	...	...	...	3	„

Material for research was sent to Messrs. Boots (Chemists) Research Department, for work on Arthritis, Department of Zoology, Liverpool University (Ascaris), The Medical Faculty University of Birmingham (Carcinoma), The Institute of Animal Pathology, Cambridge (Equine Warble infection).

Facilities for practical instruction were provided for a member of the Department of Agriculture, Cyprus, at the request of the Colonial Office, and for a Sanitary Inspector studying for the Meat Inspection Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

TABLE VIII.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

No. of cases originally notified during the year ended December 31st, 1948, and of Final numbers after corrections of diagnosis, etc.

	Ages (NK—unknown)					
	M	F	Whooping Cough.	Ac. Polio-myelitis.	Ac. Polio-encephalitis	Measles (excluding Rubella)
Diphtheria	M	F	M	F	M	F
Nos. originally notified :—						
Civilians (all ages)	51	72	73	95	—	—
Non-civilians (all ages)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction :—						
0—	—	2	6	10	—	4
1—	5	—	23	28	—	19
3—	14	11	22	32	—	15
5—	19	41	20	24	—	26
Civilians {	7	14	1	1	—	50
10—	3	3	—	—	—	51
15—	2	1	—	—	—	2
25 and over	2	—	—	—	—	1
Age NK	1	—	1	—	—	—
Total Civilians	51	72	73	95	—	104
Non-Civilians {	—	—	—	—	—	91
15—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
or NK	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Non-Civilians	—	—	—	—	—	—

Section F.—continued.

	Erysipelas.		Cerebro-Spinal Fever.		Other notifiable Diseases.	Original Notification		Final Nos.	
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
Nos. originally notified :— Civilians (all ages)	2	1	—	—	CIVILIANS. Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	1
Non-Civilians (all ages)	—	—	—	—	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	2	—
Final Nos. after correction :— Civilians { 0— 5— 15— 45— 65 and over Age N.K.	— — — 1 1 —	— — — 1 — —	— — — — — —	— — — — — —	Malaria (contracted in England and Wales)	—	—	—	—
Total Civilians	2	1	—	—	NON-CIVILIANS. Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
Non-Civilians { 15— or N.K. 45 and over	— —	— —	— —	— —	Malaria (contracted in England and Wales)	—	—	—	—
Total Non-Civilians	—	—	—	—					

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria.

21 notifications were received compared with 30 in 1947, four of these on investigation proved to be tonsilitis.

The 17 confirmed cases give an attack rate of 0.35 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.47 for the previous year and 0.09 for towns of comparable size.

One death occurred during the year, giving a mortality rate of 0.02. The case had not been immunised and the child died before reaching hospital.

Immunisation.

The routine immunisation or re-immunisation of entrants has been carried out in the schools, while younger children have been dealt with at the Infant Welfare Centres of the County Council. The following figures show the number of children protected to 4th July, 1948 :—

<i>Under</i>		<i>5—14</i>		
5 years.		years.		Total.
253	...	41	...	294

In addition 90 children received a reinforcing dose making a total of 1,862 thus protected to the date of transfer.

Information received from the Area office shows the following figures from 5th July, to the end of the year :—

<i>Under</i>		<i>5—14</i>		
5 years.		years.		Total.
378	...	12	...	390

Reinforcing doses for the same period were 110, this gives a grand total of 1,972 children protected.

Scarlet Fever.

123 notifications were received during the year, giving a notification rate of 2.75 per 1,000 population as compared with 1.51 for 1947 and 1.73 for the whole country. The disease was mild in type.

Erysipelas.

Three cases were notified, giving a rate of 0.06 per thousand population.

Pneumonia.

21 cases were notified during the year. The notification rate is 0.43 compared with 0.73 for the country as a whole.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

One notification was received during the year, giving a rate of 1.05 per 1,000 total births.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Two notifications were confirmed, giving a rate of 2.16 per 1,000 live births.

Whooping Cough.

There were 168 notifications as compared with 58 for the previous year. The notification rate of 3.48 per 1,000 population compares with 3.42 for the whole country.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

There was one case, a child, aged 2 years. The patient was an inmate of Moxley Hospital for 40 days and discharged free from paralysis.

Measles.

There were 195 notifications compared with 710 for the previous year, giving a notification rate of 3.90 per 1,000 civilian population.

Scabies.

The Scabies Clinic held two sessions weekly. 61 attendances were made by 22 patients, of whom 15 were school children.

Tuberculosis.

46 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were brought to notice by notification or otherwise. This gives an attack rate of 0.95 per 1,000 population. There were six new non-pulmonary cases.

The following table gives a summary of the register.

TABLE IX.

	MALES.		FEMALES.		Total
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	
Number on register 1st January, 1948	179	60	189	57	485
New Notifications, 1948	16	2	22	2	42
Number restored to register having been removed in previous quarter	—	—	—	—	—
Cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	5	1	3	1	10
Number removed from register 1948	22	5	25	8	60
Number on Register 31st December, 1948	178	58	189	52	477

AGE AND SEX OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS—1948.**TABLE X.**

Age	New Cases.				Cases removed from register due to death.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females	
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary	Pul-monary	Non-Pul-monary
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
—25	3	—	14	1	1	—	7	1
—35	6	—	4	—	5	—	4	—
—45	6	—	2	—	1	—	3	—
—55	4	1	1	—	3	—	—	—
—65	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Total	21	3	25	3	12	—	15	1

The death rate is 0.58 per 1,000 population.

Cancer.

There were 79 deaths from Cancer during 1948.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

I present herewith the Report on the work carried out in my Department during 1948.

During the year, two of the District Inspectors, Messrs. C. H. Crawford and W. Whitfield were successful in passing the examination as Smoke Inspectors.

My Deputy, J. W. Billingham, and W. Whitfield, left the Department, in November and September, respectively, having obtained appointments in other areas. Both officers carried out their work with zeal and efficiency and their departure left a gap. Many months pass before a newly appointed inspector becomes thoroughly acquainted with his district.

Repairs to houses due to high costs continue to give concern, especially at those houses which were sub-standard prior to 1939. Cases have come to notice where houses well below standard have been sold with vacant possession at ridiculous prices to persons anxious to get a roof over their heads. In normal times these houses would have been dealt with under the Housing Act instead of being the means of exploiting persons who are forced by circumstances to obtain accommodation where best they may.

Towards the end of the year, inspection of all licensed houses was commenced, primarily with a view to the provision of constant hot water supply being readily available for the washing of glasses.

House refuse collection by virtue of an improvement in the manpower available, proceeded towards a weekly collection, the objective aimed at for several years. At the end of the year most of the district was receiving a weekly service. It was to be expected that better service would cost money, the increased cost per annum being £3 0s. 0d. per 1,000 population or £12 0s. 0d. per thousand premises.

Salvage income was satisfactory in spite of a falling tendency in prices of some materials. A total of £34,674 0s. 0d. has been received since salvage commenced in 1940, in return for 8,539 tons of materials returned to industry.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1948.**(Houses other than Council Houses.**

					<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Re- Inspections.</i>
Housing.						
Section 9	...	...	...	...	39	6
Section 11	...	...	...	...	9	14
Section 12	...	...	...	...	157	1
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	26	9
Public Health Acts.						
Houses	...	...	...	...	617	3,101
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	152	15
Water supply	...	...	...	...	3	4
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	...	18	—
Ashes accommodation	...	...	...	...	258	132
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	9	2
Drainage inspection	...	...	...	...	151	13
Drainage tested	...	...	...	...	5	—
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	8	—
Urinals	...	...	...	...	5	—
Sewers and street gullies	...	...	...	...	10	3
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	131	2
Rag and Bone Dealers	...	...	...	...	1	—
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	140	7
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	113	16
Rivers Pollution	...	...	...	...	10	—
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	68	4
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	351	2
Bye-Laws.						
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	52	11
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	153	11
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	179	—
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	...	25	—
Factory Act						
Factories	...	...	...	...	179	58
Bake-houses	...	...	...	...	34	8
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	4	—

Re-
Inspections. Inspections.

Food and Drugs Act.

Food Premises and Markets	...	200	...	9
Cowsheds	... ..	33	...	—
Dairies	... ..	47	...	3
Ice Cream Premises	... ..	100	...	102
Fish Fryers	... ..	90	...	26
Meat Shops	... ..	61	...	—
Interviews with Owners, etc., on property	... ..	467	...	—
Meat and Food Surrenders	...	51	...	—
Miscellaneous visits	... ..	216	...	8

Complaints.

382 complaints were received against 405 for 1947; 163 related to stoppages in drain pipes.

In order that stoppages in drains could be more expeditiously dealt with, the Public Health Committee decided, labour being available, to remove obstructions with drain rods, and in order to facilitate the work a motor-cycle combination was purchased. This enables the workman to quickly deal with stoppages reported and thus avoid serious nuisances.

Smoke Abatement.

One serious nuisance occurred from grit. This was from Works which have been troublesome for many years. As reported previously, until the reconstruction and electrification scheme is completed the nuisance will not be abated. This work is now well in hand and completion is anticipated during 1950.

During the year the survey requested by the Smoke Abatement Society was carried out and details submitted. This information was made more readily available due to the fact that in 1947 a survey of all steam raising apparatus throughout the district was carried out and recorded.

Where plans are received shewing new steam raising apparatus close co-operation with the Surveyor has resulted in improvements in several instances.

Infectious Disease Prevention.

131 visits were made to cases of Infectious Diseases, including revisits; 117 houses were disinfected.

39 houses were dealt with for the elimination of bed bugs and the following table shews the work carried out in this direction :—

TABLE XI.

Vermin.	No. of houses sprayed.	No. of sprayings.
Bugs	39	40
Ants	2	2
Fleas	2	2
Woodlice	1	1
Total	44	45

Sanitary Improvements carried out as a Result of Inspections made and Notices Served. (Work actually carried out).

Dwelling-houses.

Roofs repaired	205
House brickwork repointed	23
Gables, cement rendered	21
Chimney stacks repointed	35
Chimney pots provided or repaired	5
Defective brickwork of walls rebuilt	4
Dangerous walls rebuilt or repaired	8
Rainwater spouting repaired or renewed	93
Vertical damp-proof courses provided	3
Horizontal damp courses provided	3
Walls and ceilings :—	
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	216
Walls and ceilings cleansed	219
New firegrates provided	7
Firegrates repaired	27
New doors provided	9
Doors and door frames repaired	29
Dirty houses—tenant's neglect	6
Dirty bedding—tenant's neglect	2
New door sills provided	1
Latches provided	4
Door steps repaired or renewed	7
New windows provided	3
Windows repaired	72
Sash cords renewed	105

Top sashes of windows hung	...	...	...	...	7
Window fasteners provided	...	...	...	...	23
New window casements provided	...	...	...	...	6
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	38
Quarry floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Livingroom floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	29
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	39
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Hand rails on stairs provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Pantry floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Pantries limewashed	...	...	...	...	9
New covers to cellar lights provided	...	...	...	...	10
Cellar brickwork repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Boundary walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	3
Cellar walls limewashed	...	...	...	...	3
Verandahs repaired	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5

Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.

Wash-house roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	60
Wash-house doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Wash-house chimneys re-pointed or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	8
W.C. walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	6
Wash-house windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	14
Wash-house floors repaired	...	...	...	...	11
New earthenware sinks provided	...	...	...	...	4
Repairs to sink, brickwork, etc.	...	...	...	...	19
Water supply provided to sinks	...	...	...	...	27
Wash-houses limewashed	...	...	...	...	7
Wash-house doors repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Washing boilers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	36
Washing furnaces provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Brickwork of washing boilers repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	24
Water closet brickwork repaired or re-pointed	...	...	...	...	10
Water closet roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Leaking W.C. joints repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Water closet floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	6
New W.C. provided	...	...	...	...	3
Water closet flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	59
Water closet pans provided	...	...	...	...	11
Water closet seats renewed	...	...	...	...	13
Rainwater spouting provided or repaired to wash-houses and W.C's.	...	...	...	...	18
Water closets limewashed	...	...	...	...	4
Coal stores repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Coal house doors repaired	...	...	...	...	2

Yards or paving repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	857
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	6

Drainage.

Obstructed drains cleared...	...	...	...	...	163
Drains repaired or reconstructed...	...	...	...	...	4
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	2
New covers provided to inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	4
Waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3

Slaughterhouses.

Walls limewashed after notice	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1

Food Premises.

Food shops cleansed	10
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	...	1
Fish Frying rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	5

Smoke Abatement.

Smoke nuisances remedied	5
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Shops Act.

Stores cleansed	...	...	...	...	7
Hot water service provided	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream Premises.

Sterilising apparatus provided	...	...	...	...	2
Hot water supply provided	...	...	...	...	2

Licensed Premises.

Sanitary conveniences limewashed	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3

Milk and Dairies.

Dairies limewashed	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	3

Factories and Workshops.

Factories and Workshops limewashed	8
W.C's. or Urinals limewashed	...	...	...	...	7

Bakehouses.

Limewashed after notice	1
--------------------------------	---

Other Nuisances.

Caravans removed	8
Accumulations of manure and other refuse removed ...	3
Piggeries cleansed	3

Letters and Notices sent out.

Preliminary notices and housing schedules	615
Letters	1,281

Statutory Notices.

Public Health Act, 1936 :—

Section 39	2
Section 45	3
Section 75	34
Section 93	79
Section 56	1

Shops Acts :—

Section 10	1
-------------------	---

Housing Act :—

Section 11	4
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Seven dustbins were supplied in default under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936. In each case the owners paid the cost without resorting to legal proceedings.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

The following dwelling houses were represented as being unfit during the year, and were dealt with as follows :—

4, Holbeache, Kingswinford ...	Demolition Order.
32, New Street, Quarry Bank ...	„ „
4 and 5, "C" Court, Dudley Road, Brierley Hill ...	„ „
Building rear of 40, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank ...	Undertaking not to re-let
93, Bower Lane, Quarry Bank	„ „ „ „
Building rear of 120, Dudley Road, Brierley Hill ...	„ „ „ „

Rehousing of persons living in unfit houses on which Orders were operative before 1939 commenced during the year. In all 189 persons occupying 40 houses were rehoused.

The assistance given by the Housing Allocation Committee has been most gratifying and has given the families removed hope and encouragement after residing in drab and insanitary conditions for many years.

The demolition of void houses which had become derelict was recommenced, in all 34 were taken down.

There are now only seven houses open under licence, on which Orders under the Housing Act are operative. Seven licences were withdrawn during the year, the tenants being rehoused and the houses demolished.

Overcrowding.

The number of statutory cases of overcrowding remaining on the books at the end of the year was 141, a reduction of four of the known cases at the end of 1947.

The question of overcrowded houses was brought to the notice of the Public Health Committee during the year, who asked the Housing Allocation Committee to give the matter sympathetic consideration. In consequence some progress was made in re-arranging accommodation, particularly in houses owned by the Authority.

Number of known statutory overcrowding cases, 1947	145
New cases	2
	<hr/>
	147
Abated, 1948	6
	<hr/>
Known cases, December, 1948	141
	<hr/>

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 1,803 pigs were examined at the two Bacon factories still remaining under my supervision and this total represents the whole of the animals slaughtered on the premises. 8.02 per cent of these were found to be affected with tuberculosis.

In addition, 794 pigs were examined on private premises against 601 for 1947

The following is a list of meat and other foods condemned :—

Pigs :—

Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	4
Collars	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other parts	...	...	...	...	...	6
Heads	...	...	...	...	...	112
Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	41
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	65
Hearts	...	...	...	...	...	29
Spleens	...	...	...	...	...	29
Stomachs	...	...	...	...	...	6
Intestines	...	...	...	...	...	22
Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	2

Other Foods :—

Baking Powder	...	...	...	...	...	2 packets.
Figs	...	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Vermacelli	...	...	...	...	...	28 lbs.
Haddock	...	...	...	...	...	4 stone.
Cokernut ice	...	...	...	...	...	4... lbs.
Kippers	...	...	...	...	...	64 lbs.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	23 lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	300 lbs.
Tinned foods	...	...	...	...	...	2,323 tins.

As far as possible the food was utilised.

The total weight of meat and food condemned (excluding tinned goods was 1 ton 6 cwts. 2 qrs. 22 lbs.

Article.	No.	Adulterated or otherwise irregular.	Article.	No.	Adulterated or otherwise irregular.
Baking Powder	1	1	Onions, Dried	1	
Barley, Coarsecut	1		Pepper Ground White	2	
Barley, Granulated	1		Polony	1	
Coffee & Chicory Ess.	2		Sauce, Dessert Powder	1	
Custard Powder	7		Sauce, Tomato...	1	
Fish Cakes	1		Sausages, Salami	1	
Gelantine	1		Spread, Choc-malt	1	
Gravy Thickening	1		Spread, Malt-cocoa	1	
Ice Cream	20		Squash, Grapefruit	1	
Jelly Dessert	1		Squash, Orange	2	
Lemonade Crystals	1		Stuffing, Sage & onion	1	
Milk	43	3	Turtle Soap Tablets	1	
Oil, Pure	2	2	Vinegar, Malt	3	
Oil, Refined	1	1	Vinegar, Pure Malt	2	
			Total	102	7

The following samples were reported as not being in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act.

Milk—Sample No. 750.

Was 3.3% deficient in fat. A warning was issued. Appeal to cow samples had been taken on previous occasions from this Friesian herd and resulted in the fat content being below 3.0%.

Milk—Sample No. 751.

Was 5.0% deficient in fat. In this case a warning was issued.

Milk—Sample No. 755.

Was 7.3% deficient in fat. This was produced from a Friesian herd in the area of an adjoining Authority, who informed me that 'appeal to cow' samples taken three days before this sample, shewed deficiencies of between 3 and 7%.

Baking Powder—Sample No. 675.

77.0% deficient in available Carbon dioxide. This was an informal sample and proved to be old stock. None was available for sampling.

Pure and Refined Oil—Sample Nos. 686, 690-1.

Three samples were submitted and the Analyst reported that they consisted of 99.0% Mineral Oil, had no food value, and did not comply with the Labelling of Food Orders, 1946.

Application was made to the Ministry of Food for permission to take the necessary proceedings, but the Ministry did not consider mineral oil a food therefore there was no offence under the Labelling of Food Order. In consequence of this delay other proceedings could not be taken.

Two bottles, one beer and one lemonade, were submitted for bacteriological examination after having passed through washing machines. Both bottles gave a count of between 2,000 and 4,000.

Two bottles containing lemonade were forwarded for bacteriological examination. Coli aerogenes were nil in each case.

One sample of stew from a canteen was submitted for examination. No food poisoning organisms were isolated.

Milk.**Bacteriological examination.**

29 samples were submitted for this examination, the results of the tests were as follows :—

Designation under which sold.	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase test.		Coliform Bacillus test.	
	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Undesignated ...	8	1	—	—	7	2
Pasteurised ...	15	2	17	—	3	4
T.T. Pasteurised ...	2	—	2	—	—	—
Sterilised ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	26	3	19	—	10	6

In addition, five samples of milk produced in this area were submitted for examination for the detection of Tuberculosis ; these gave negative results.

Ice Cream.

108 samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Methylene Blue test, the results being as follows :—

Mix.	Grades.			
	1	2	3	4
Hot ...	29	11	9	35
Cold ...	9	4	4	7

The following 20 samples were submitted for chemical analysis :

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Preservative.</i>	<i>Fat.</i>
710	... Nil ...	6.0%
711	... „ ...	1.3%
712	... „ ...	2.5%
713	... „ ...	3.7%
714	... „ ...	0.3%
715	... „ ...	6.8%
716	... „ ...	2.2%
717	... „ ...	10.0%
718	... „ ...	2.5%
719	... „ ...	3.9%
720	... „ ...	2.1%
721	... „ ...	6.3%
722	... „ ...	5.9%
723	... „ ...	1.4%
724	... „ ...	7.2%
725	... „ ...	6.9%
726	... „ ...	2.8%
727	... „ ...	3.9%
728	... „ ...	7.1%
729	... „ ...	6.9%

Seven samples of “ fruities ” were submitted for the Plate Count and Coliform examination. The results were as follows :—

Plate Counts in 1 cc.			B. Coli content.	
Under 100	100 to 1,000	1,000 to 5,000	Nil.	in 0.3 cc.
4	2	1	4	3

At the end of the year the following premises were registered :

Manufacture and sale	...	...	...	22
Storage and sale	...	...	...	44

Food Premises.

During the year the following new premises were registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—

Fish Fryers	...	...	...	6
Manufacture of sausage, brawn, etc.	...	...	...	2

making a total of 28 premises on the register.

Thirteen applications to commence the business of fish fryers were received, but in each case the Public Health Committee decided to first obtain the views of the Town Planning Committee. Nine were refused on planning grounds.

Of the four applications approved by the Town Planning Committee, only one has been registered under the Food and Drugs Act. The remainder have not yet carried out the requirements of the Committee.

In addition, two fish fryers were given Notice of Time and Place to attend before the Public Health Committee to shew cause why their registrations should not be cancelled. In both cases they complied with the requirements and registrations were confirmed.

Milk and Dairies.

The following are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1926-1943 :—

Dairymen	...	...	...	...	28
Retail Purveyors of Bottled Milk	...	...	...	...	212

There are 17 cowsheds in the area ; these are in fair condition.

Licences issued under Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—1942 :—

Supplementary :—

Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	...	3
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	3

Dealers :—

Tuberculin tested	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	1

Slaughterhouses.

There are 22 slaughterhouses in the area ; four of these only are in use at the present time.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There are 66 slaughtermen licensed to carry out the work of slaughtering.

Water Supply.

Mains water—three samples submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination were certified fit for drinking.

One sample of water taken from the bore-hole at the Kingfisher Lido was satisfactory.

Two samples taken from wells in Forge Lane, Wallheath, were certified as being unfit for drinking purposes and the Occupiers were advised to boil the water. The provision of a piped water supply to the five houses in the vicinity has been under consideration for some time. The Council decided to purchase land adjoining as a housing site so that a main could be laid to serve the contemplated development and the houses in Forge Lane. Laying of the main had not commenced at the end of the year.

One sample of sewage effluent from the Council Farm was submitted at the request of the Surveyor for chemical examination. The report was satisfactory.

FACTORIES.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of	
		Inspections.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	171	150	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	117	58	„
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers premises) ...	18		„
Total	306	208	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Lighting	1	1	—	—
No ventilation	1	1	—	—
Other offences	4	4	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :—				
Insufficient	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	9	9	—	—
No sanitary accommodation	1	1	—	—
Total	18	18	—	—

Six outworkers lists were received notifying ten outworkers.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Work in this connection necessitates the full time service of one female operative in dealing with private and industrial premises.

The treatment of works, etc., has been so successful that most firms have contracted with the Department for Quarterly test baiting and treatment. Income for the year amounted to £216 2s. 8d.

The following work was dealt with during the year :—

				<i>No. of premises visited.</i>		<i>No. of treatments.</i>
1.	By contract	...	...	86	...	276
2.	Private dwellings	...	...	123	...	131
3.	Council properties	...	...	10	...	34
4.	Amblecote U.D.C.	...	...	6	...	11
				<hr/> 225	...	<hr/> 452

Sewers.

The half yearly maintenance treatments were carried out as follows :—

Number of manholes baited	...	...	66
Number of prebait " takes "	...	...	24
Number of " C " takes	...	...	16

In conjunction with the above, test-baiting of 73 manholes in various parts of the area revealed nine complete " takes," these were incorporated in the maintenance treatment for the first half year.

SHOPS ACT.

There are 728 shops on the register.

PETROLEUM ACT.

There are 108 licensed premises to store petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licensed being 102,300 gallons. Licence fees amounted to £66 10s. 0d.

In addition four licences to store Calcium Carbide were issued ; total amount 15,904 lbs. ; licence fees £2 5s. 0d.

CAMPING SITES.

One application for renewal of licence was granted, the site to be occupied by four caravans.

An application to licence a site for one caravan for the use of a person engaged on horticultural work was granted.

RENT RESTRICTION ACT.

One application under the above Act was received and a certificate was issued.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING.

Applications for licences to carry out works to existing houses are investigated by this Department. In all 351 applications were received and dealt with as follows :—

Licences issued	...	...	...	...	345
Disapproved	...	...	...	...	6
Total cost of licences issued	...	...	...	...	£20,406

H. J. PARKER,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This section of the Report deals with work up to the 31st March, 1949.

Staff.

Foreman	...	...	...	...	1
Male employees	...	...	...	...	45
Female employees	...	...	...	...	6
					—
					52

These are employed as follows :—					<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Refuse collection	...	...	...	...	23	
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	1	
Salvage	...	...	...	...	7	6
Street Cleansing	...	...	...	...	9	
Gullies and Cesspools	...	...	...	...	2	
Public Conveniences, Depot and drains	...	...	...	...	3	

Vehicles.

The following is a list of vehicles operated :—

- One S.D. freighter (11 cubic yards).
- Three S.D. freighters (7 cubic yards).
- One S.D. Gully/Cesspool Emptier.
- Three Morris (one two-ton and two one-ton).
- One Ford (one-ton).
- Two Lewin Road Sweepers Collectors.
- One Fordson half-track bulldozer.
- One Austin utility van (Foreman).
- One Motor-cycle and side box.

An order was placed during the year for one side loading Chelsea body S.D. freighter of 11 cubic yards, this vehicle will replace one S.D. vehicle purchased in 1930.

Collection.

During the year the weekly collection of ashes from all ashbins was extended to the whole of the area. The weekly collection was commenced in the Quarry Bank area in August, 1948. Kingswinford and Wordsley followed in October, and by January, 1949, a weekly collection operated throughout the area.

This collection gave general satisfaction to householders, one of the advantages outside that of hygiene, is that refuse is removed on the same day and time each week (excepting holiday periods). This enables the occupiers to make arrangements if they are likely to be out.

The total tonnage collected shewed an increase over the previous year, and entailed 600 additional loads. An increase was anticipated because of the general cleaning up necessary to establish a weekly collection, but the main factors were the poor quality of coal and the considerable amount of coal picked from spoil banks in one part of the area.

The following table shews the loads moved by the various vehicles :—

Vehicle.	Number of Loads.					Total.
	Bins.	Fixed Receptacles	Trade.	Hospitals & Schools.	Pans and Bins.	
S.D.1 ...	596	20	14	33	—	663
S.D.2 ...	1,526	—	1	10	—	1,537
S.D.3 ...	1,529	—	—	—	—	1,529
M.C.4 ...	56	13	33	190	119	411
S.D.5 ...	259	41	1	36	5	342
S.D.9 ...	1,298	—	—	—	—	1,298
Horse and Cart ...	—	218	149	—	155	522
Total ...	5,264	292	198	269	279	6,302

Disposal.

The whole of the house refuse and street sweepings are weighed at the Leys Disposal Ground before being disposed of by controlled tipping. One Fordson half-track vehicle fitted with a bull-dozing blade deals with the whole of the refuse.

Disposal Ground :—

House Refuse	15,331 tons.
Road Sweepings	2,401 tons.
	<hr/>
	17,732 tons.

Table shewing the costs for the year ended 31st March, 1949.

Particulars.	Collection.	Disposal.	Collection and Disposal.
	£	£	£
Revenue account :—			
Gross expenditure	14,546	1,550	16,096
Gross income	4,604	161	4,765
Net Cost	9,942	1,389	11,331
Unit costs :—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Gross Expenditure per ton	18 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	21 0
Gross Income per ton	6 0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Net cost per ton	12 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	14 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Net cost per 1,000 population... ..	£ 206	£ 29	£ 235
Net cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected	733	102	835

Total refuse collected (actual)	...	...	...	15,331 tons
Population	...	...	...	48,250
Area (Statute acres)	...	...	...	5,932
Weight per 1,000 population per day	...	...	...	17 cwts.
Number of houses and premises	...	...	...	13,570
Rateable value	...	...	...	£181,198
Product of Id. rate	...	...	...	£710
Rate in £ (Collection and Disposal)	...	...	...	1/3.968d.

Vehicles are included under Gross Expenditure collection at a daily rate, which amount includes running costs, petrol, oil and depreciation.

Street Cleansing.

The number of men employed on this work is nine, four being employed on the Lewin Sweepers, and the other five being hand sweepers.

It is difficult to see what would have happened had the Lewin Sweepers not been purchased. Naturally, as all machines, they have their limitations giving best service on good surfaces, and where these conditions do not exist wear of parts become more pronounced. In spite of this, the machines have done a good job, the total amount of sweepings collected being 1,986 tons; this is actual weight. Without the machines many of the roads would not have been swept, as it is impossible in this area to obtain labour for this class of work.

			<i>Working Days.</i>	<i>No. of Loads.</i>	<i>Weight Tons.</i>	<i>Loads of Water.</i>
No. 1 Machine	...	...	277	517	1005	453
No. 2 Machine	...	...	251	466	981	300
				983	1986	753
Street sweepings moved by horse vehicle or other vehicles	...	...		418	415	
Total	...	...	...	1401	2401	753

Gully Cleansing.

There are 1,752 street gullies, all of which are emptied by mechanical means; in all 6,589 cleansings were effected and 328 loads removed giving a total tonnage of 893 tons.

Cesspools.

The number of cesspools cleansed during the year was 114, 242 loads being removed.

Public Conveniences.

There are seven for males and three for females in the area. the sum of £21 0s. 0d. was collected during the year.

All public conveniences are thoroughly cleaned daily, two being visited twice each day. Locks and fittings again received the usual attention of hooligans who appear to think that public property is something to be destroyed.

Salvage.

The waste paper collection 331 tons shewed an increase of 54 tons over the previous year, and is the third highest total since salvage commenced in 1940.

The collection of metals, tins, bottles and jars from houses ceased, and in consequence there was a decrease in the amount of these materials returned to industry. The amount of tins decreased by 160 tons and metals by 120 tons.

Waste food also shewed a decrease of approximately 100 tons.

In spite of all this the income was £4,152 0s. 0d. and was the fourth highest since 1940.

There are still 460 three-gallon waste food containers at houses from which a weekly collection is made. The number of communal waste bins placed in the various streets has now been reduced to 80, these are emptied twice weekly. Waste is also collected from a number of works canteens.

Salvage Income.

	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£</i>
Paper	331	2662
Tins	110	207
Metals	40	178
Cullet, bottles and jars	45	144
Condemned Meat and Bones	5	27
Textiles	24	316
Kitchen Waste	216	333
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	771	3867
Collection Allowances :—		
Paper		97
Kitchen Waste		188
		<hr/>
		£4152
		<hr/>

H. J. PARKER,
Cleansing Superintendent.

